JUSTICE

1. DEPARTMENT DETAILS

MISSION

Our mission is to serve the residents of the NWT by:

- Working with community members so that communities are safe and secure;
- Ensuring that all residents have access to justice, including legal aid, the courts, alternatives to the courts and other justice-related services;
- Providing legal services to the Government of the Northwest Territories (GNWT) and its agencies;
- Protecting the rights and freedoms of individuals and groups; and
- Promoting respect for the law and the Constitution of Canada.

GOALS

1. Crime reduction activities are more integrated and focused on social factors.
2. Communities have a stronger role in the justice system and greater access to programs and services.
3. Families and youth at risk are more fully supported.
4. The Department is better equipped to provide core programs and services.
5. The justice system is continually adapting.

OPERATING ENVIRONMENT

The following issues are expected to impact on Department of Justice programs and services during this business plan period.[1]

Improving the Justice System's Approach to Crime

1. Understanding the NWT's High Crime Rate

The NWT has the highest police-reported Crime Rate[2] in Canada, and the rate is increasing at a time when crime rates in southern Canada are decreasing. In 2011, the Crime Rate in the NWT went up by 3%, and is the highest in Canada at eight times the national average. This is influenced in part by the high number of police per capita in the NWT (451/100,000, the highest in Canada[3]), which likely contributes to a higher level of reporting. Nevertheless, a high rate of crime is also driven by demographic and social factors, such as our relatively young population, low educational attainment, and abuse of drugs and alcohol often related to the traumatic impacts of residential schools.

There are three categories of crime included in the Crime Rate: Violent Crime, Property Crime and Other *Criminal Code* Offences. Violent Crime remained the same in 2011 compared to 2010, but the Property Crime rate increased 13% and the rate of Other *Criminal Code* Offences increased by 4%.

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[1] These issues (with minor updates) are consistent with those identified in the Department of Justice 10-year Strategic Plan 2012-2022.

[2] Crime rate is a national indicator which measures the overall volume of crime.

[3] *Police Resources in Canada 2011*, Statistics Canada

The high rate of Violent Crime in the NWT has had – and will continue to have – an impact on police charges, sentenced custody, and the number of accused held in custody awaiting trial or sentencing.

2. Factors Outside the Department's Control are Driving Demand

The Department continues to experience an increasing demand for services, based largely on factors outside its control. The costs and workload associated with trials, court sittings and court travel are largely directed by the NWT Courts, and will continue to be unpredictable. In addition, the introduction of new federal legislation such as Bill C-10 (the *Safe Streets and Communities Act*), policy changes established by Public Safety Canada that impact on the RCMP, and budget cutbacks each have residual and cumulative effects on the courts, corrections services, policing, victim services and legal aid. Economic development projects are also expected to create pressures on the justice system.

Improving Access to Justice

1. The Needs in NWT Communities Vary Widely

It is not feasible or financially possible to provide justice services exactly the same way in each community. The types of services required for larger regional centers vary significantly from the types of services that are required in smaller communities. The challenge for the Department is to explore how each NWT community can have access to justice services in a way that is both sustainable over time and appropriate for that community's needs.

2. The Civil/Family Law System is not Fully Responding to Families

The formal legal system does not always provide an effective response to the needs of families in crisis or in transition. While there are a range of supports for families already in contact with the formal justice system, such as victim services and mediation, the Department's role is limited in how it can assist families before they come into contact with the formal justice system. New collaborative approaches to meeting the needs of families in transition are required.

Building a Strong Foundation

1. The Department's Financial Capacity

The Department has received some financial relief over the past year. This additional funding combined with the effective management of resources has enabled the Department to maintain core programs and service levels. However, external factors could result in additional financial pressures in the Department. Regular monitoring and analysis of these factors will continue throughout the business planning period to understand their effect on the justice system.

2. The Department Faces Human Resource Challenges

The Department is expected to face a shortage of skilled staff throughout the justice system. Recruitment for specialized positions continues to be difficult. There are also not enough positions allocated to some territorial functions to create a critical mass for the delivery of legislated justice services.

3. Technology is Aging and at Risk of Failure

The Department currently has aging information technology/systems (IT/IS) infrastructure that is fundamental to supporting core services and programs. Immediate and significant investment is

required to replace systems supporting NWT Courts, the Corrections Service and Legal Registries. Resources are also required to invest in business continuity activities to meet ongoing IT/IS needs while also advancing major projects and initiatives.

KEY ACTIVITY 1: SERVICES TO GOVERNMENT

Description

"Services to Government" includes the corporate management activities of the **Directorate, Policy and Planning Division, Finance Division** and **Information Services.** It also includes services provided to other GNWT departments, boards and agencies. **Legal Division** provides advice and representation to all GNWT departments and specified public agencies. GNWT bills and regulations are prepared by or under the direction of legislative drafters in **Legislation Division**, and legal translators prepare French versions of these documents. The **GNWT Access and Privacy Office** (within the Policy and Planning Division) is responsible for providing advice and information to GNWT public bodies on the *Access to Information and Protection of Privacy (*ATIPP*) Act.* The **Aboriginal Consultation Unit** provides advice and legal support to GNWT departments engaged in consultation activities.

Other Initiatives

Justice 10-Year Strategic Plan

The Minister of Justice tabled the Department's 10-year strategic plan in the Legislative Assembly in June 2012. This plan sets the long-term strategic direction and identifies priorities for the Department and the NWT justice system. In the fall of 2012, a five-year implementation plan will be tabled as a companion document to the strategic plan. In 2013-14, the Department will monitor and report on progress on the plan's priorities.

Impacts of Federal Legislation

In 2012-13, the Department of Justice assessed the impacts of Federal Bill C-10 and released the report: *Analysis of Federal Bill C-10, Safe Streets and Communities Act: Impacts on the NWT Department of Justice*. The Department is bringing forward amendments to the *Human Rights Act* to reflect Bill C-10 changes. In 2013-14, Justice will monitor the impacts of Bill C-10 and other federal legislation.

GNWT Access and Privacy Office

The Department continues to advance initiatives to improve GNWT capacity to meet its legislated obligation under the *Access to Information and Protection of Privacy (ATIPP) Act.* Activities underway that will continue into 2013-14 include:

- Development and implementation of GNWT-wide information incident protocols in consultation with the Department of Finance (Office of the Chief Information Officer);
- Development of a GNWT-wide privacy policy and implementation framework, in consultation with the Department of Finance (Office of the Chief Information Officer) and of Human Resources; and
- Implementation of a GNWT management and employee guide to privacy, access, security, records retention, disposal and overall management of information in government and public bodies. This is a collaborative project between Justice and the Departments of Finance (Chief Information Officer), Public Works and Services (Records Management) and Human Resources.

Additionally, the Department is reviewing past recommendations of Standing Committees in response to the Information and Privacy Commissioner's annual reports and has committed to

report on outcomes of this review to the Legislative Assembly by October 2012. A comprehensive review of the *ATIPP Act*, including an examination of access to information and privacy legislation in other Canadian jurisdictions, will be conducted following the review of past Standing Committee recommendations. A review framework will be developed in 2013-14 that will include resource requirements and timing considerations.

Mitigating Impacts of Large-Scale Resource Development

The Department will continue to participate in GNWT activities to identify, monitor and report on the impacts of significant resource development on the NWT justice system. Currently the NWT is experiencing increased development activity associated with oil and gas exploration in the Sahtu, the proposed Gahcho Kue Diamond mine northeast of Yellowknife, the proposed Mackenzie Highway extension, and several other mineral exploration ventures.

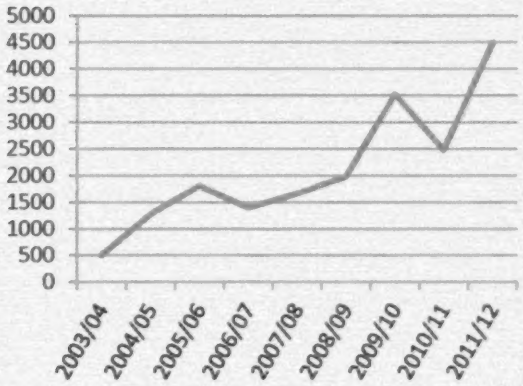
Department activities include providing legal advice, identifying service requirements and associated resource needs, and fulfilling commitments made during environmental regulatory processes. A significant aspect of planning work will be carried out in partnership with the RCMP "G" Division to ensure there are adequate policing resources in place when large-scale construction or other resource development activities occur. Funding for an RCMP planning position was approved in 2012-13 and this position will be staffed in 2013-14. (Also see Key Activity 3: Police Services).

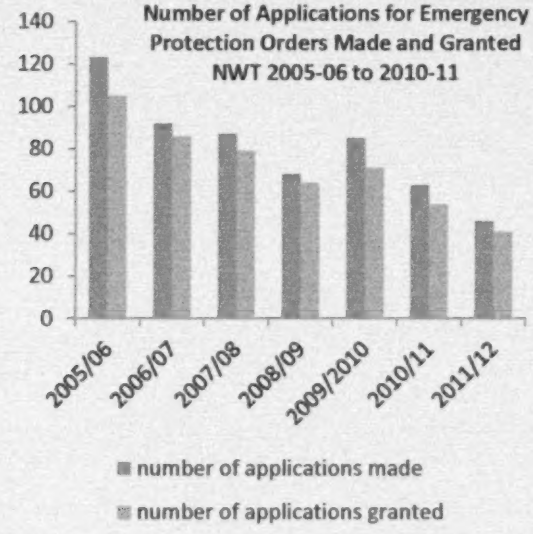
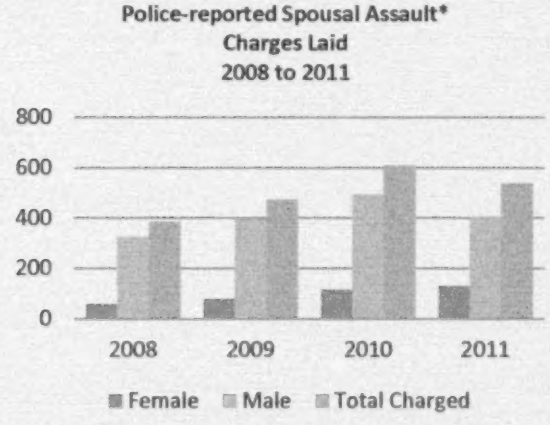
KEY ACTIVITY 2: COMMUNITY JUSTICE

Description

The **Community Justice and Policing Division** provides support to communities to develop and implement sustainable local justice programming in the areas of restorative justice, victim services, FASD, community policing and crime prevention. This includes the diversion program where communities assist youth and adults to deal with matters outside the formal justice system. Support is also provided to communities to enhance crime prevention activity at the local level. The Division also works closely with the RCMP on policing priorities and community safety initiatives.

Performance Measures

Indicator	What does it measure?	Why is this measure important?
Community Justice Activities 2003-04 to 2011-12 	The extent of community engagement in community justice activities.	• This measure is an indication of community participation and support for local restorative justice and crime prevention initiatives. • Annual funding of $20,000or $30,000 is provided to 24 NWT communities to employ a justice coordinator and maintain a community justice program. • Activities include diversion and non-diversion activities such as on-the-land programs, community events, and workshops addressing local justice issues.
Victims of Crime Accessing Services Brief Services*: 2009-10: 574; 2010-11: 650; 2011-12: 468 New Clients: 2009-10: 734; 2010-11: 566; 2011-12: 440 Ongoing Clients: 2009-10: 984; 2010-11: 670; 2011-12: 558 * Brief Service means a single telephone contact with a victim or other person where brief information, referral or support is provided, but no substantial time is spent and ongoing contact is not anticipated. More than one service type or area can be checked, but "total brief service contacts" refers to the number of callers, not services offered	The number of victims who access services.	• This measure gives a snapshot of service utilization by victims in a given year. • Community-based and outreach victims services exist in seven communities and provide victims of crime with information, assistance, support and referrals. • Between 2009 and 2012, 1,740 new clients and 2,212 ongoing clients were served, and a total of 10,195 services were provided. • It is difficult to compare service use between years. The nature and severity of crime can vary between years influencing victim needs for brief (one time) service or longer term services.

Indicator	What does it measure?	Why is this measure important?
	The number of Emergency Protection Orders (EPOs) applied for and granted per year under the *Protection Against Family Violence Act*.	• The number of applications for EPOs under the Act is an indicator of family violence. The number of applications may also be an indicator of confidence in the justice system. • The decline in applications for EPOs is happening at the same time as police-reported spousal violence is increasing (see below). • A recent evaluation of the Act concluded that EPOs are a valuable tool for victims of family violence.
	The number of charges that the RCMP laid for offences related to spousal assault.	• This measure is an indicator of family violence as reported to police. • After increases in 2009 and 2010 there was a slight decrease in charges laid against male offenders in 2011.

*There is no specific charge of spousal assault. Police report a charge of spousal assault for a variety of violent offences, where the victim and offender are known to be spouses (married or common-law).

Other Initiatives

Enhancing Community Safety

Community Safety Strategy:

In 2012-13 the Department will finalize a Community Safety Strategy. The Strategy is intended to function at both the territorial and the community level.

At the territorial level, the Department is putting staff and resources in place to ensure territorial justice programs and services are accessible and work effectively across the NWT. At the community level, the Community Safety Strategy establishes a process and provides tools to

assist communities to "map" their community safety issues and resources. Through this Strategy, participating communities will coordinate and configure resources to develop local community safety plans.

Starting in 2012-13 and continuing into 2013-14, the Department is piloting a collaborative approach to supporting community safety in three communities. A court worker, victim services worker and community justice coordinator will each act as key justice facilitators in their communities, providing information on territorial justice programs and services and assisting communities to develop their own community safety plans.

The Department and participating communities will work together to monitor and evaluate the pilot projects and will consider methods for determining the longer term success of community safety plans. The results of the pilot projects will determine the future direction of the Strategy.

Policing plans are also being developed by the RCMP in conjunction with the communities. This work complements the community based "mapping" process, and are an integral part of any community safety plan (also see Key Activity 3: Police Services).

Gunshot and Stab Wound Mandatory Disclosure Legislation:

Currently there is no territorial legislation which requires a health care facility or emergency medical staff to report gunshot or stab wounds. In 2013-14, the Department will consider legislation that will provide the RCMP with timely information to protect the public and expedite the response to violent offences. The implementation of this legislation will also complement actions to improve community safety, reduce family violence and support victim services.

Community Justice Committees

In 2013-14, the Department, in partnership with the communities and key stakeholders such as the RCMP, will continue to implement recommendations from the 2010-11review of the community justice program. Review recommendations focus on the areas of capacity building, knowledge dissemination, training, program support and networking. The Department will also develop on-line training materials and will work in partnership with community-based agencies to support youth who come into contact with the justice system as victims or offenders.

***Not Us*! Anti-Drug Awareness Program**

The Department is currently developing an evaluation framework to assess the success of the campaign and to inform the future direction of the program.

In 2013-14 and future years, the Department will continue to provide resources through the *Not Us!* initiative for communities to develop and sustain local initiatives to combat substance abuse and the illegal sale and use of drugs. Justice will continue to provide information on the campaign in all communities through community presentations, advertising and the Department's website.

Victim Services

The Department continues to support seven victim services programs including community outreach in Hay River and Inuvik with the support of federal funding over a five-year period (2011-12 to 2015-16).[4] In 2013-14, this work will also include collaboration with victim service providers on case consultations, information sharing and other supports to victims of crime.

[4] This federal funding is presented under *Work Performed on Behalf of Others* in the Department's Main Estimates.

In 2013-14, the Department will examine ways to improve services and supports specifically for child and youth victims of crime. The Department will also complete a review on the victim services delivery model which began in 2012-13. The Department will implement changes to improve services to victims of crime in the NWT in light of review outcomes.

Family Violence

Amending Family Violence Legislation:

In 2012-13, the Department has begun work to respond to the recommendations of the *Protection Against Family Violence Act* evaluation. In 2013-14, Justice will bring forward a proposal to amend the Act to clarify provisions and improve emergency protection order processes, relating to the following areas:

- Maximum length of emergency protection orders;
- Review and hearing processes; and
- Clarification of the legislative authority related to other Acts.

Men Who Use Violence Pilot Program:

In 2012-13, the Department plans to introduce a new three-year pilot program in Yellowknife for men who use violence. The main purpose of this program is to protect victims while giving violent (high-risk) men opportunities to change their behavior. The Department is contracting a community-based program delivery agency to get the program operational. Once implemented the pilot project will be monitored to assess the potential for this program to be expanded to other communities.

Domestic Violence Treatment Options Court:

The domestic violence treatment options court for low-risk offenders is a court process supported by an eight-week treatment program offered by Justice probation staff. In 2013-14, the operations of this specialized court and supporting program will be assessed (also see Key Activity 5: Court Services).

Domestic Violence Risk Assessment:

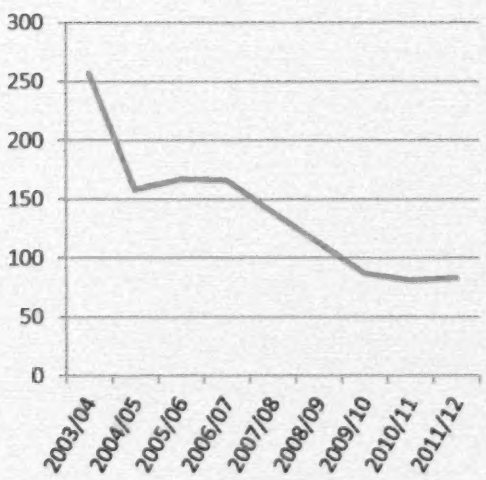
In 2012-13, the Department, in collaboration with Health and Social Services, the RCMP and Public Prosecution Service of Canada, will monitor the use and resulting outcomes of the risk assessment tool that was implemented NWT-wide in 2009-10 for use with domestic violence cases. In 2013-14, the Department will work with partners to implement recommendations arising from this review of the risk assessment tool.

KEY ACTIVITY 3: POLICING SERVICES

Description

Policing services for NWT communities are provided by the RCMP through an agreement between the GNWT and the Government of Canada. There are also cost-sharing programs with the Government of Canada with respect to First Nations policing to support additional RCMP resources for policing in the north. An agreement is also in place with Public Safety Canada to cost-share DNA testing and analysis.

Performance Measures

Indicator	What does it measure?	Why is this measure important?
# of patrols to communities without detachments Beginning in 2014-15, the Department will have standardized and community comparable data on police patrols and calls for service by detachment.	Community patrols by the RCMP into communities that don't have a detachment.	• This measure is an indicator of the RCMP commitment to provide community policing services in communities without detachments. • In 2013-14, under the new Territorial Policing Agreement baseline data on patrols to communities without detachments is being established.
33 Communities (100%) have individual community policing plans, even if they do not have a detachment.	Commitment to level of community engagement in policing services	• Communities must be engaged in developing and implementing policing plans that meet the unique needs of their community.
Number of Diversions in the NWT 2003/04 to 2010/11  	The number of diversions per year as reported by community justice committees.	• This measure is an indicator of police and community support for alternative approaches to justice. • This measure does not include police warnings and cautions. • The diversion program continues to be an important program for many community justice committees.

Other Initiatives

20-Year Territorial Policing Agreement (2012-2032)

A new 20-year agreement for RCMP services in the NWT was signed and implemented in 2012-13. The new contract gives the NWT more influence over key areas such as cost containment, governance, and operational and financial accountability. The contract also provides mechanisms to support appropriate oversight of operational and financial effectiveness. Under this new contract, the NWT will work with provincial/territorial contracting jurisdictions to refine and further develop common approaches to support effective ongoing implementation of the contract as well as greater accountability from the RCMP for police services.

NWT Policing Priorities and Community Policing Plans

Under the Territorial Police Services Agreement, annual policing priorities are established by the Minister of Justice and provided to RCMP "G" Division. In 2013-14, the Department will continue to work with communities and the RCMP to advance the following priorities:

1. Promote public trust and confidence in policing services;
2. Identify policing priorities with every community;
3. Develop policing plans based on community priorities;
4. Target resources to plans; and
5. Ensure ongoing and consistent reporting.

The Department will work with the RCMP to enhance accountability through better communications, reporting and meaningful community-based planning for policing services. The RCMP and local leadership have developed community policing plans for each community that are responsive to local needs and issues. The RCMP are reporting monthly to community and Aboriginal leadership about progress on these plans.

In 2013-14, the Department will work with the RCMP to compile data from the monthly reports into an overarching document that will report on progress territory wide. The data from the monthly reports will assist the RCMP and the Department to monitor:

- progress on local policing priorities;
- calls for service; and
- patrols into communities without detachments.

Policing plans being developed by the RCMP and communities complement the "mapping" process set out in the Community Safety Strategy and are an integral part of any community safety plan (also see Key Activity 2: Community Justice).

Aboriginal Policing Programs

In 2013-14, the Department will continue to work in partnership with RCMP "G" Division to advance Aboriginal policing initiatives in the NWT, specifically through the federal Aboriginal Community Constable Initiative. Justice will promote awareness and support recruitment efforts for the NWT positions. In addition, the Department will work toward a more favorable cost-sharing agreement with the federal Aboriginal Policing Directorate through the application of the First Nations Policing Policy in the NWT. This policy provides a cost sharing agreement between the territorial and federal government (54% GNWT to 46% Canada).[5]

[5] The GNWT is responsible for 70% of policing costs under the Territorial Police Services Agreement.

RCMP Response to Family Violence

The creation of a dedicated family violence position at "G" Division in 2012-13 will assist the RCMP to advance actions to respond to family violence. The position serves as a resource to RCMP members to strengthen the front line response. The position also serves as a liaison with GNWT departments and NGOs to improve coordination of front line responses to family violence. In 2013-14, the RCMP family violence position will collaborate with other GNWT Departments to ensure adequate training is provided to members and ensure that the rigorous investigation standards for family violence cases are consistently met. The Department and "G" Division will also examine the use of the domestic violence risk assessment tool to ensure quality processes and supports are in place for all officers to use this tool effectively.

Mitigating Impacts of Large-Scale Resource Development

In 2012-13, the RCMP received additional resources to establish a dedicated position to focus on planning for resource development. In 2013-14, this position will work with Justice and other agencies to ensure there are adequate policing resources in place when significant construction or other resource development activities occur. There are increased policing demands on two communities as a result of the resource development in the Sahtu, and the RCMP will require additional resources as a result.

Diversions

Diversion of matters from the courts allows community justice committees to deal with local justice issues using an approach that is particularly responsive to the needs of youth. Using the principles of restorative justice and Aboriginal values, community justice committees exercise an approach that emphasizes healing, respect, cooperation and balance.

Committees accept diverted youth and/or adult cases from the RCMP and the Crown. These cases are dealt with using a restorative model of justice through sentencing panels, victim-offender reconciliation, family group conferencing, and/or other community-based approaches. Currently there are 30 active community justice committees in the NWT. The Department assists in instances where a diversion is identified in a community without a committee.

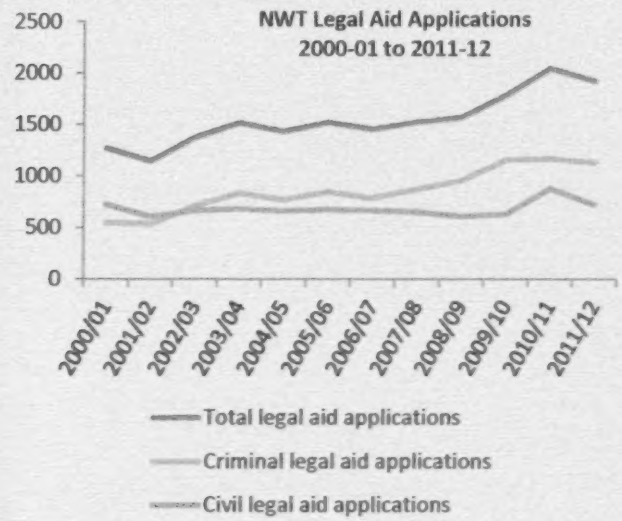
In 2013-14, the Department will continue to work with RCMP and the Crown to maintain and enhance programs, ensuring support for the diversion program as set out in the Diversion Protocol. Statistics from the courts and policing reports will be gathered and analyzed to inform progress on the diversion program through the NWT.

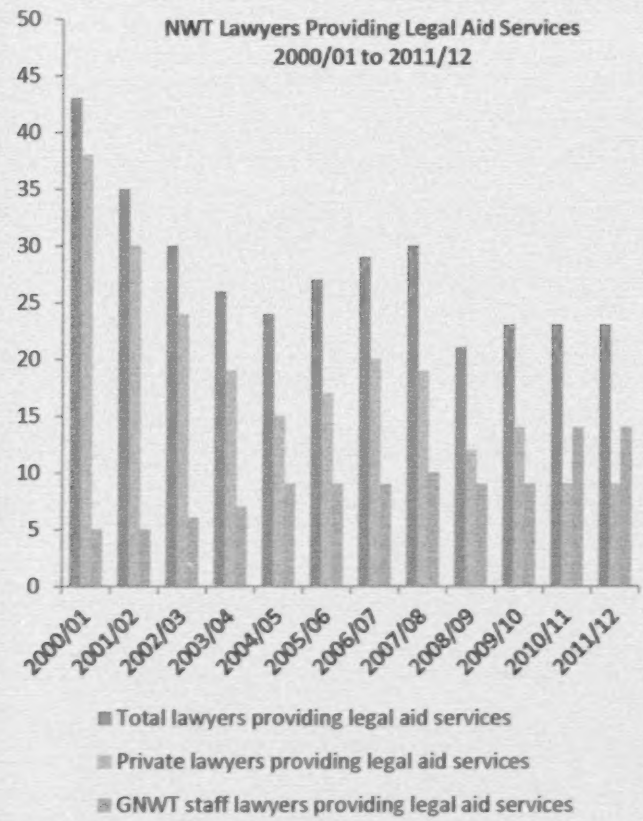
KEY ACTIVITY 4: LEGAL AID SERVICES

Description

The **Legal Services Board** (the Board) is established under the *Legal Services Act,* and is responsible for ensuring that all eligible persons in the NWT receive legal aid. The Board provides legal services for most criminal and family law matters, and some civil cases. It determines eligibility for legal aid in accordance with the parameters established by the *Legal Services Act* and the regulations under the Act. The Board is also responsible for the court worker program and for public legal education.

Performance Measures

Indicator	What does it measure?	Why is this measure important?
	Number of applications for criminal and legal aid per year	• This measure is an indicator of the workload of the legal aid program. • Residents of the NWT have access to legal aid for criminal and civil matters. • The number of legal aid applications decreased slightly from a high of 879 in 2010-11 to 725 in 2011-12

Indicator	What does it measure?	Why is this measure important?
	The number of staff lawyers employed by the Legal Services Board vs. private lawyers per year	• The measure shows the number of lawyers in the NWT providing legal aid services. • In 2011-12, there were 9 private lawyers and 14 GNWT lawyers providing legal aid services in the NWT. This number is unchanged from the last 2 years, suggesting that the overall number of NWT lawyers providing legal aid is stabilizing. • In 2012-13, an additional GNWT position has been created to address backlog and client waiting times.

Other Initiatives

New Legal Aid Act

In 2012-13, Justice introduced a new *Legal Aid Act* to modernize and improve the cost-effectiveness of the legal aid program. This initiative is currently before the Legislative Assembly for consideration. The new Act establishes the Northwest Territories Legal Aid Commission and clarifies the types of services provided through legal aid. In 2013-14 the Department plans to bring the new Act into force.

Improving Service Delivery

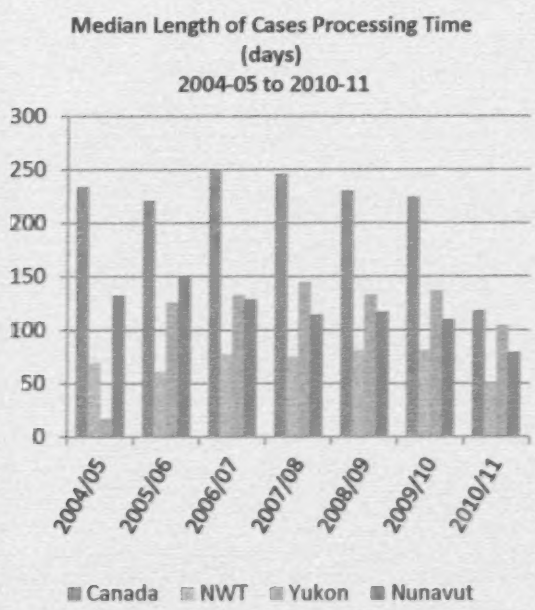
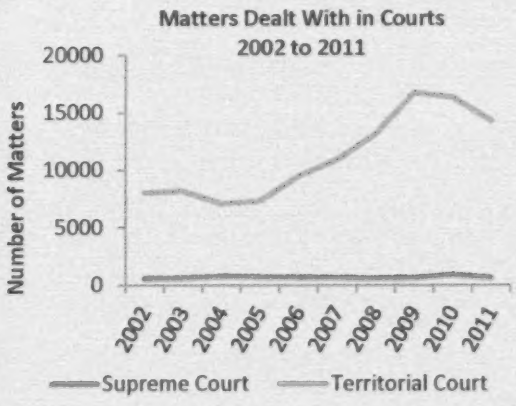
In 2013-14, the Department will be conducting a review of legal aid administration and the staff/ lawyer complement. The Board received funding for one more staff lawyer in 2012-13 for a current staff complement of 15 lawyers. While on circuit, and in addition to addressing family law matters, legal aid staff will continue to provide legal outreach services to communities (formerly called poverty law). These services have been very well received in communities across the NWT, particularly with elders seeking assistance.

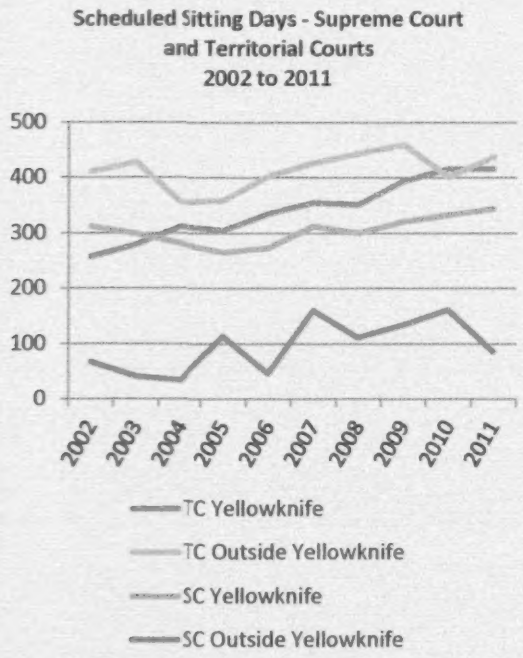
KEY ACTIVITY 5: COURT SERVICES

Description

The NWT has four levels of court which collectively represent the judicial branch of government: Justice of the Peace Court, Territorial Court, Supreme Court and Court of Appeal. The courts are independent of the executive (GNWT departments/boards) and legislative (Legislative Assembly) branches of government. The **Court Services Division** is responsible for providing administrative support to the courts. These support services ensure courts are accessible, impartial and timely. The Division is also responsible for family law services including mediation and the Parenting After Separation Program.

Performance Measures

Indicator	What does it measure?	Why is this measure important?
	The median length of time (in days) that a case takes to proceed through the court. This is also called "case processing time".	• A basic principle of the Canadian Criminal justice system is that an accused person has the right to be heard in a timely manner. This measure demonstrates the timeliness of the courts. • NWT case processing times are relatively short compared to many other jurisdictions in Canada.
	The number of matters that the courts dealt with by year, for both the Supreme and Territorial Courts.	• This measure is an indicator of the workload of the courts. • There was an increase in matters in both courts from 2002 to 2009; with a decrease in the last few years.

Indicator	What does it measure?	Why is this measure important?
	Number of sitting days by court and community per year.	• The number of sitting days is another indicator of the workload of the court. Information on court sittings outside Yellowknife is an indicator of access to the court. • Territorial court sittings in communities outside Yellowknife have remained fairly stable, while sitting days in Yellowknife have increased.

Other Initiatives

Improve Access to Court Services

The Court Services Division is researching and implementing alternative methods to improve access to services provided to the public, the judiciary and the bar. This includes efforts to improve access to courts through the use of electronic forms, enhancing information on the NWT Courts website and by scanning and maintaining court files electronically. Depending on the results of a feasibility analysis, court documents, including forms, may eventually be filed electronically.

Specialized Courts

The Domestic Violence Treatment Option Court is supported by an eight-week treatment program offered by Department (probation) staff. Experience in other jurisdictions indicates that specialized courts can lead to better outcomes for both the perpetrators and the victims of domestic violence. In 2013-14, the Department will assess the outcomes for the possibility to expand this program to other NWT communities (also see key activity 2: Community Justice).

In 2012-13, the Department began work with other social program departments to examine mental health, addictions and cognitive disability issues as they present within the justice system. As part of that work, the Department began research on the feasibility of establishing a wellness court including the range of health/social program supports that need to be in place for such a court to be established. In conducting this feasibility work, Justice is also considering enhancements to existing pre-court and post-court processes, such as integrated case management and diversion, in order to maximize their use and effectiveness. In 2013-14, Justice expects to proceed with recommendations arising from the feasibility study.

Family Law Programs

The Department has been implementing reforms to family law services in an effort to create a more accessible, efficient and responsive system for parents and children. In March 2009, the Department established a roster of family law mediators to provide mediation services to parents involved in legal disputes relating to custody, access and financial support. In 2013-14, the mediation program will be continued as an alternative to court, offering a cooperative approach to solving legal problems.

The Department will also continue to offer a Parenting after Separation program. The program consists of a one-day workshop to help parents understand the effects of separation and divorce on themselves and their children. The goal of the workshop is to help make the transition through separation or divorce easier for both children and parents. The Supreme Court of the NWT will continue the pilot requiring Yellowknife parents to participate in this program before they can file an application for custody and access.

In 2013-14, the mediation and parenting programs will be evaluated to identify successes and potential areas for improvement.

Improve Information and Use of Technology

In 2012-13, the Department will complete research into requirements for the replacement of the court information management system (called FACTS). In 2013-14, a formal request for information (RFI) will be developed to help examine options for the replacement of the FACTS system. The Department will also continue work on the implementation of the electronic document imaging project, and video conferencing capability will be added to the Hay River and Inuvik Courthouses as well as two additional Yellowknife courtrooms.

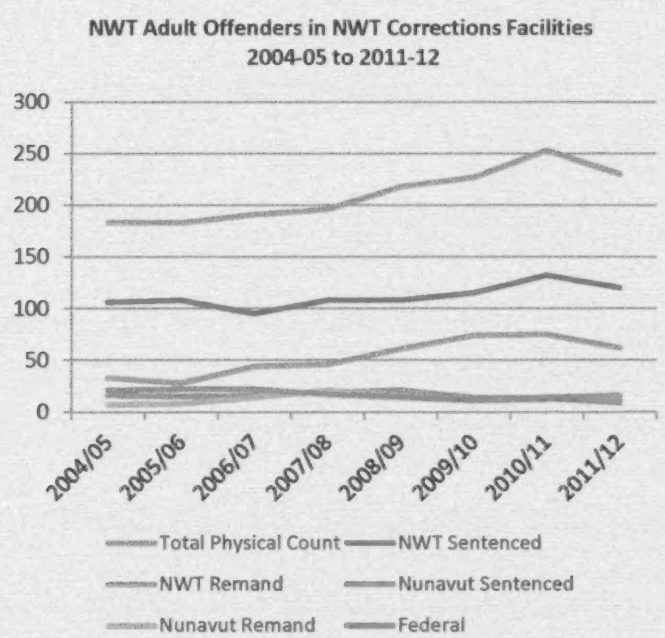
A review of the NWT Courts public website will be conducted in order to identify and implement improvements for greater access to information, including forms for both the public and legal counsel. The Department is exploring options to improve existing methods and implement new methods for the collection of court fines (other than *Motor Vehicle Act* fines). Development is ongoing on the online payment system that will allow residents to pay outstanding fines or fees online, and is expected to be implemented in 2013-14.

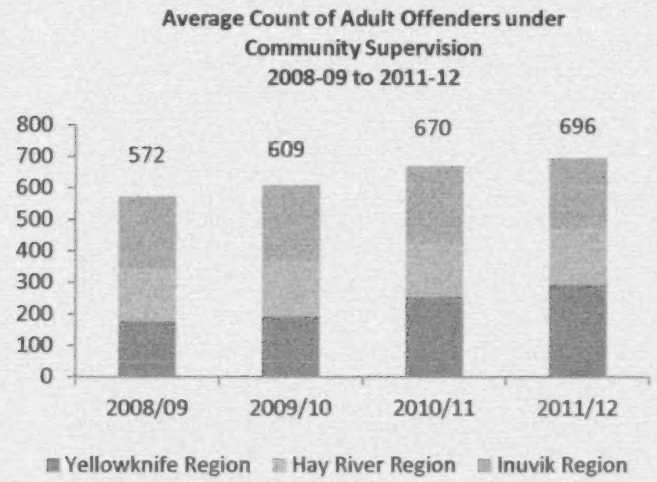
KEY ACTIVITY 6: CORRECTIONS

Description

The Corrections Service provides safe custody and supervision of adult and youth offenders. This is achieved through the operation of correctional facilities and the supervision of offenders sentenced to community based orders such as conditional sentences and probation orders. The corrections service also delivers culturally relevant programs to support offender rehabilitation and reintegration, including wilderness camps and elder support.

Performance Measures

Indicator	What does it measure?	Why is this measure important?
	The average number of offenders per year in NWT correctional facilities.	• This indicator shows the average volume and type of offender in NWT correctional facilities. • The number of offenders in NWT correctional facilities has dropped from a high in 2010/11. • The majority of offenders in facilities are either NWT remand or NWT sentenced rather than federal. • Offender counts are expected to increase following the implementation of federal legislative changes such as Bill C-10 provisions.

Indicator	What does it measure?	Why is this measure important?
	The number of offenders supervised on probation per year by region.	• This measure is an indication of the workload of probation services for each region. • The number of offenders on probation in communities has increased over the last four years. • The number of offenders on probation in the Yellowknife region has increased 60% (from 179 to 294) since 2008-09.
	• The number of temporary absence permits granted and successfully completed in the NWT per year. • A temporary absence is successfully completed if the offender completes the program and returns to their facility as required.	• This measure demonstrates effective risk assessment of offenders and use of community programs. • The granting of temporary release permits for inmates to attend targeted programming can assist in changing behavior or addressing needs. • In 2011-12, 573 permits for temporary absences were granted and of these 95% (548) were completed successfully. • There was a slight decrease in permits granted from 678 in 2010-11to 573 in 2011-12.

Other Initiatives

Corrections Act

The *Corrections Act* provides the statutory framework for the establishment of the NWT Corrections Service. The Corrections Service supervises offenders and inmates placed into custody and/or under supervision by a court or other legislated authority. The Department continues to focus efforts on identifying and addressing the criminogenic needs of offenders. Particular focus is being placed on effective case management and the reintegration of offenders into their communities upon release. In 2013-14, the Department will conduct a review of the *Corrections Act*, including consultation and identification of recommended improvements.

Corrections Programming

In 2013-14, the Department will continue implementing programs that are culturally appropriate, suited to our offender population, and based on core correctional practices.

Activities will include:

- Developing a process for the ongoing evaluation of all programs, including constituting an advisory committee responsible for analyzing program effectiveness;
- Looking at the potential for community programming partnerships (e.g. development of workplace and literacy skills);
- Piloting a new alcohol and drug program at the South Mackenzie Corrections Centre;
- Examining new practices for offender management and staff training;
- Participating in the Evaluation of the Domestic Violence Treatment Option Court through the assessment of offenders and delivery of the PARTNER[6] program;
- Considering approaches to aftercare;
- Improving approaches to mental health problems and cognitive disabilities such as FASD; and
- Exploring options for the continued delivery of an Elders camp for inmates located in the Sahtu.

Foster Partnerships and Case Management

In addition to correctional programs in facilities, staff at correctional facilities and in probation services work collaboratively to develop and plan for an offender's return to his or her community to support reintegration and rehabilitation and to reduce the risk of re-offending. This case-management approach includes communication between the facility and the probation officer who is responsible for supervision of the offender upon his or her return home. Elders or other community supports may also participate.

In 2012-13, an interdepartmental group was established with the departments of Health and Social Services, Municipal and Community Affairs, Executive, and Education, Culture and Employment. This working group is examining approaches to support a collaborative case management approach with a focus on mental health and addictions.

Human Resource & Facility Planning

Corrections facilities and probation services continue to meet the challenge of addressing service requirements and case-loads. In 2013-14, Justice will continue working toward a corrections-

[6] PARTNER – Planning Action Responsibility Toward Non-Violent Empowered Relationships

specific human resources plan and will consider the results of the 2012-13 staff satisfaction survey. A three-year training plan based on established needs, past experiences and best practices will also be implemented to enhance training programs and support instructor development. It is anticipated this will require the pursuit of additional resources in order to sustain the ongoing need to support staff.

A planning study for a new correctional facility in Fort Smith for women and girls has been completed. In 2013-14, the Department will conduct further operational planning associated with the proposed construction of the new facility commencing in 2014-15. The Department will also conduct a facilities needs assessment to assist in planning for other correctional facilities over the next 20 years.

Victim Notification Program

The Victim Notification Program provides victims of crime with information about an offender's sentence start and expiry dates, eligibility for temporary absences, escapes and releases from custody, as well as other information on the status of the offender. Victims have to apply for the program. The Victim Notification Program will be strengthened by the 2013-14review of the *Corrections Act*, and new legislative provisions will likely be proposed to reinforce the program's standing.

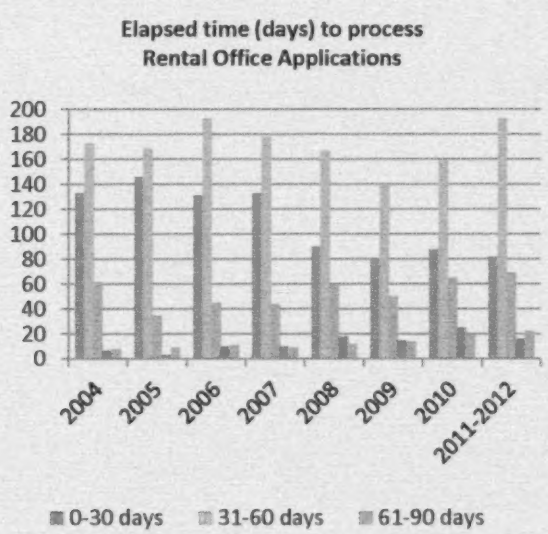
KEY ACTIVITY 7: SERVICES TO THE PUBLIC

Description

Services to the Public includes a number of programs and services that are accessible to all residents, including services available from the following:

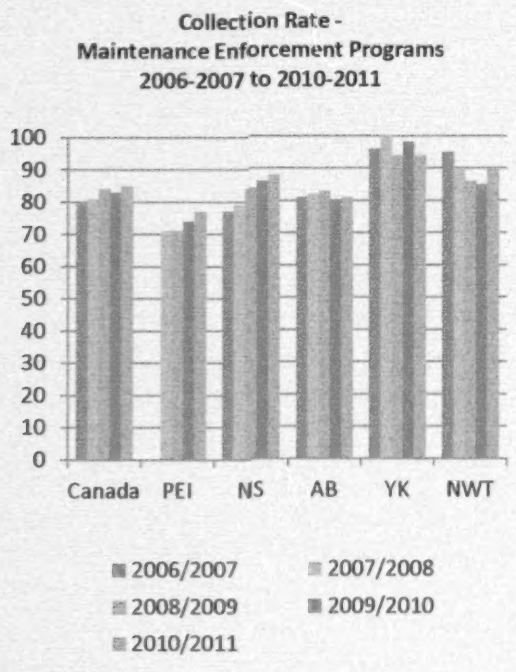
- Public Trustee's Office;
- Office of the Children's Lawyer;
- Coroner's Office;
- Legal Registries (land titles, corporation and society registration, personal property registration, regulation in securities trading, registration of notary publics and commissioners for oaths);
- Protection Against Family Violence Program[7];
- Maintenance Enforcement Office;
- Rental Office; and
- Public Utilities Board

Performance Measures

Indicator	What does it measure?	Why is this measure important?
	The average duration of elapsed time taken to process rental office applications per year.	• This measure indicates the timeliness of the response of the rental office. • Changes to the *Residential Tenancies Act* were made in 2010. The rental officer now has the authority to make eviction orders. This increase in workload has had an impact on applications heard within the first 30 days.

*Prior to 2011 data was measured in calendar years. 2011/12 is the first year data is reported by fiscal year. Data for the first three months of 2011 was excluded.

[7] Information on family violence initiatives is included in Key Activity 5: Community Justice and Corrections.

Indicator	What does it measure?	Why is this measure important?
	• The proportion of family support collected through maintenance enforcement. • Only jurisdictions that reported data for five years was represented in the graph.	• This measure is the percentage of support payments due during the year that were received. • This does not include arrears from past years. • This measure is an indicator of compliance with support orders it also shows the effectiveness of the Maintenance Enforcement Program in the NWT • In 2010-11, the Maintenance Enforcement Program collected 90% of the amount due to families. This collection rate is comparable with the five other jurisdictions reporting this information

Other Initiatives

Children's Lawyer Services

The Office of the Children's Lawyer provides children with a voice in child protection and family law disputes. A children's lawyer ensures that children are aware of their rights and understand the legal process.

In 2012/13, the office started a court-ordered access assessment service to provide families in custody access to expert reports for the Court. This service has greatly assisted the Court with cases involving children, and will likely result in speedier resolutions of family cases, more settlements without a trial and better outcomes for children. In 2013-14, the Department will examine changes to the *Children's Law Act* to ensure authority for all levels of court to order counsel for children in custody and access cases. Also in 2013/14, services offered by the office will be evaluated to assess utilization and to measure the impact of services provided.

Child Support Recalculation Service

In 2012-13, the Department is conducting a feasibility study on the establishment of a child support recalculation service. In addition to examining different delivery models, the study is also considering if new resources would be required to implement an NWT program. This service would allow the Department to recalculate child support payments using parents' updated annual income tax information, and it could significantly reduce the need for parents to go to court to update the amount of support in order to keep pace with increases in the cost of living or to take into account reductions in income. In 2013-14, Justice will complete the feasibility work and identify recommendations regarding implementation of such a service in the NWT.

Residential Tenancies Act

A number of issues related to the *Residential Tenancies Act* have been raised by the Legislative Assembly and by the Rental Officer in his 2010-11 and 2011-12 annual reports. These issues include:

- Removing the exemption of public housing from the security of tenure provisions;
- Adding transitional housing to housing covered by the Act; and
- Improving the enforcement of rental officer orders.

The Department began its review of these issues in 2012-13. In 2013-14, the Department expects to propose amendments to the *Residential Tenancies Act*.

Legal Registries

In 2013-14, the public will have online access to conduct searches in Corporate Registries from their homes and offices, and will be able to pay by credit card. The Department will continue work on an electronic database and online search system to replace the manual title search process currently available in Land Titles.

Justice will also continue to participate in the development of national rules to harmonize securities regulations. If a decision is made to proceed with a national securities regulatory authority, the NWT will participate in the implementation activities along with other jurisdictions.

The *Partnership Act* includes requirements for the filing of partnership and business names so that there is public notice of the owners or persons responsible for a business otherwise known to the public only by their business name. In 2013-14, the Department plans to introduce amendments as these provisions have never been significantly amended and are now outdated.

2. RESPONDING TO PRIORITIES

PRIORITY 1: Build a strong and sustainable future for our territory

Description

Strengthening our relationships with Aboriginal and other northern governments

Major Program and Service Initiatives Planned for 2013-14

- Justice will provide support to GNWT departments through advice and services of the GNWT Aboriginal Consultation Unit as well as legal counsel.
- The Aboriginal Consultation Unit is currently updating training materials to reflect continuing changes in the law. The Unit is also initiating discussions with federal officials to promote an increased coordination of consultation efforts undertaken by both the territorial and federal governments.
- The Department will support discussions with Aboriginal leadership on effective delivery of programs and services.

Description

Negotiating and implementing a devolution final agreement

Major Program and Service Initiatives Planned for 2013-14

- Justice will provide legal advice and support to GNWT departments engaged in negotiations and intergovernmental planning.
- The Department will provide drafting services to GNWT departments for required legislative initiatives.
- The Department will assess Justice-specific program or policy considerations that may be associated with devolution.

Description

Working with our partners to ensure responsible stewardship through our land and resource management regime

Major Program and Service Initiatives Planned for 2013-14

- Justice will provide legal advice to GNWT departments.
- The Aboriginal Consultation Unit will work with GNWT departments to deliver training, provide information and offer advice on effective approaches to meeting the GNWT's legal obligation to consult with Aboriginal governments.

PRIORITY 2: Increase employment opportunities where they are needed most

Description

Reducing dependency on government by encouraging people who are able to enter or remain in the workforce

Major Program and Service Initiatives Planned for 2013-14

- Justice will continue to participate in the development of an anti-poverty strategy with other GNWT departments.
- The Department will continue to offer the Corrections Northern Recruitment Training Program. This program provides Northerners an opportunity to pursue a career in corrections and apply on entry-level positions in the Corrections Service.

PRIORITY 3: Strengthen and diversity our economy

Description

Making strategic infrastructure investments such as the Mackenzie Valley Fiber Optic Link

Major Program and Service Initiatives Planned for 2013-14

- Justice will provide legal advice to GNWT departments.

Description

Supporting the Mackenzie Gas Pipeline project

Major Program and Service Initiatives Planned for 2013-14

- Justice will provide legal advice to GNWT departments.
- The Department will participate in GNWT processes and planning activities related to significant resource/economic development activities in order to identify service/program needs and mitigate potential socio-economic impacts in communities.

Description

Improving our regulatory processes

Major Program and Service Initiatives Planned for 2013-14

- Justice will provide legal advice and legislative drafting services to GNWT departments.

PRIORITY 4: Address housing needs

Description

Completing and implementing the Shelter Policy Review including fair and sustainable public housing rent scales

Major Program and Service Initiatives Planned for 2013-14

- Justice will participate in the interdepartmental work to identify policy and programming solutions that span departments and disciplines in order to improve services/ supports to individuals and families at risk.
- The Department has a primary interest in exploring ways to improve health and social services/supports for victims and offenders.

PRIORITY 5: Ensure a fair and sustainable health care system

Description

Investing in prevention, education and awareness and early childhood

Major Program and Service Initiatives Planned for 2013-14

- Justice will participate in interdepartmental work to advance prevention-oriented awareness and educational campaigns, particularly those that target high-risk behavior leading to crime, family violence, and drug/alcohol abuse. The Department will continue to work with communities to develop local anti-drug awareness and prevention initiatives through the *Not Us!* campaign, and will look for ways to complement other prevention-oriented initiatives that target common audiences and high-risk groups. In addition, the Department will continue to offer services and supports to families and children (e.g. mediation services, parenting after separation programs, children's lawyer services, victim services) in order to assist families and individuals who may be in transition or crisis.

- The Department will explore opportunities to improve services and supports for at-risk youth and adults – particularly offenders – through integrated case management approaches that involve other departments, disciplines and professionals.
- Justice will make improvements to services and supports available to victims of family violence and abuse. This will include implementing actions from the review of the *Protection Against Family Violence Act* as well as completing the Victims Services Program Review. The Department will also work with the RCMP, other GNWT departments and frontline agencies to raise awareness and improve responses to family violence and abuse.

Description

Enhancing addictions treatment programs using existing infrastructure

Major Program and Service Initiatives Planned for 2013-14

- The Department will examine current alcohol and drug treatment services being offered to offenders in correctional facilities as well as in the community (upon release). Justice is interested in exploring options with Health and Social Services for effective addictions treatment and counseling for offender rehabilitation and reintegration, and with Education, Culture and Employment for social or educational supports that offenders might need while in custody and/or upon release. A primary goal is to achieve a seamless transition for services and supports to offenders as they leave custody and return to their communities and families.

3. RESOURCE SUMMARY

DEPARTMENTAL SUMMARY

JUSTICE
2013-2014

(thousands of dollars)

	Proposed 2013-14 Main Estimates	2012-13 Revised Estimates	2012-2013 Main Estimates	2011-12 Actuals
OPERATIONS EXPENSE				
Services to Government	10,832	10,866	10,866	9,830
Community Justice	3,596	3,545	3,496	3,022
Policing Services	40,699	39,469	39,469	35,959
Legal Aid Services	6,056	5,952	5,905	5,331
Court Services	11,657	11,446	11,446	11,312
Corrections	37,683	37,850	37,544	36,464
Services to the Public	4,954	4,948	4,948	4,819
TOTAL OPERATIONS EXPENSE	**115,477**	**114,076**	**113,674**	**106,737**

HUMAN RESOURCE SUMMARY

	Proposed 2013-14	2012-13	2011-12	2010-11
Total Number of Employees	463	456	454	419

Appendix I – Financial Information

Operations Expense Summary

JUSTICE
Operations Expense Summary: 2013-2014

	2012-13 Main Estimates	PROPOSED ADJUSTMENTS				2013-14 Business Plans
		FG Collective Bargaining NA	Forced Growth	New Initiatives	Sunsets and Other Approved Adjustments	Internal Reallocation of Resources	
Services to Government							
Directorate	1,501					(389)	1,112
Aboriginal Consultation Unit	306						306
Finance Division	3,376				(15)		3,361
Legal Division	3,218				(373)		2,845
Legislation Division	1,205						1,205
Policy & Planning	1,223		91				1,314
Informatics Division	0		263			389	652
Amortization	37						37
Total Services to Governme	10,866		354		(388)		10,832
Community Justice							
Community Justice	3,072						3,072
Protection Against Family Violence	424				100		524
Total Community Justice	3,496				100		3,596
Policing Services							
Territorial Police Services Agreement	38,993		1,230				40,223
First Nations Policing	424						424
Biology Casework	52						52
Total Policing Services	39,469		1,230				40,699

JUSTICE
Operations Expense Summary: 2013-2014

	2012-13 Main Estimates	PROPOSED ADJUSTMENTS					2013-14 Business Plans
		FG Collective Bargaining NA	Forced Growth	New Initiatives	Sunsets and Other Approved Adjustments	Internal Reallocation of Resources	
Legal Aid Services							
Legal Aid Administration	2,456						2,456
Courtworkers	1,126						1,126
Legal Aid Staff Lawyers	1,045						1,045
Family Law Clinic	549						549
Somba K'e Clinic	680				151		831
Amortization	49						49
Total Legal Aid Services	5,905				151		6,056
Court Services							
Courts Administration	565						565
Court Library	263						263
Court Registries	6,675		153				6,828
Territorial Court	2,464						2,464
Justice of the Peace	578						578
Court Reporters	517		58				575
Amortization	384						384
Total Court Services	11,446		211				11,657
Corrections							
Corrections Administartion	1,927				(50)		1,877
Community Corrections	4,650				(40)		4,610
Adult Facilities	23,372				339		23,711
Youth Facilities	4,989				(110)		4,879
Custodial Placement	787						787
Amortization	1,819						1,819
Total Corrections	37,544				139		37,683

JUSTICE
Operations Expense Summary: 2013-2014

	2012-13 Main Estimates	PROPOSED ADJUSTMENTS				2013-14 Business Plans
		FG Collective Bargaining NA	Forced Growth	New Initiatives	Sunsets and Other Approved Adjustments	Internal Reallocation of Resources	
Services to the Public						
Public Trustee	389					389
Coroner Service	694					694
Rental Office	230					230
Legal Registries	2,022		6			2,028
Maintenance Enforcement	769					769
Office of the Children's Law	300					300
Public Utilities Board	438					438
Amortization	106					106
Total Services to the Pub	4,948		6			4,954
TOTAL DEPARTMENT	113,674		1,801		2	115,477

Explanation of Proposed Adjustments to Operations Expense

Explanation of Proposed Adjustments to Operations Expense
JUSTICE

Key Activity / Task	Explanation of Proposed Adjustment	FG Collective Bargaining NA	Forced Growth	New Initiatives	Sunsets and Other Approved Adjustments	Internal Reallocation of Resources
Services to Government						
Directorate	Transfer to create Informatics Division					(389)
						(389)
Finance Division	Renewal of RCMP Contract				(15)	
					(15)	
Policy and Planning Division	GNWT Access and Privacy Office Records Assistant		91			
			91			
Legal Division	Support negotiations of Devolution and Resource Revenue Sharing agreement				(373)	
					(373)	
Informatics Division	Additional Staffing Resources- Justice Informatics Section		263			389
			263			389
	Total for Services to Government		**354**		(388)	**0**
Community Justice						
Protection Against Family Violence	Implementation of the Program for men who Abuse				100	
					100	
	Total for Community Justice				**100**	

Explanation of Proposed Adjustments to Operations Expense
JUSTICE

Key Activity / Task	Explanation of Proposed Adjustment	FG Collective Bargaining NA	Forced Growth	New Initiatives	Sunsets and Other Approved Adjustments	Internal Reallocation of Resources
Policing Services						
Territorial Police Services Agreement	RCMP Contract- Radio Replacements		178			
	Increased compensation and benefits - Public Servant Salary Increase		26			
	RCMP- Informatics (Replace existing telephone systems)		119			
	RCMP- Relocation (Intra Divisional)		216			
	RCMP- Utilities and Vehicle Fuel		206			
	Increased Compensation and Benefit costs for RCMP members		485			
			1,230			
	Total for Policing Services		**1,230**			
Legal Aid Services						
Community Law Clinic	Establishment of an additional Legal Aid Family Lawyer				151	
					151	
	Total for Legal Aid Services				**151**	
Court Services						
Court Registries	2012 Judicial Remuneration Report- Salary Impact Territorial Court Judges and Deputy Judges		23			
	Increase in Deputy Judge Sitting Fees		130			
			153			
Court Reporters	Impact of Deleting Appendix A3- Court Reporters from Collective Agreement		58			
			58			
	Total for Court Services		**211**			

Explanation of Proposed Adjustments to Operations Expense
JUSTICE

Key Activity / Task	Explanation of Proposed Adjustment	FG Collective Bargaining NA	Forced Growth	New Initiatives	Sunsets and Other Approved Adjustments	Internal Reallocation of Resources
Corrections						
Corrections Administration	Intensive Rehabilitative Custody and Supervision Agreement Sunset				(50)	
					(50)	
Community Corrections	Intensive Rehabilitative Custody and Supervision Agreement Sunset				(40)	
					(40)	
Adult Facilities	Pilot Alcohol and Drug treatment program at South Mackenzie Correctional Centre				339	
					339	
Youth Facilities	Intensive Rehabilitative Custody and Supervision Agreement Sunset				(110)	
					(110)	
	Total for Corrections				**139**	
Services to Public						
Legal Registries	Increased Personal Property Registry & Credit Card Collection costs		6			
			6			
	Total for Services to Public		**6**			
TOTAL PROPOSED ADJUSTMENTS			**1,801**		**2**	

Major Revenue Changes: 2012-13 Main Estimates to 2013-14 Business Plan

Major Revenue Changes: 2012-13 Main Estimates to 2013-14 Business Plan
JUSTICE

(thousands of dollars)

Revenue Item	2012-13 Main Estimates	2013-14 Business Plans
Transfer Payment		
Youth Justice Services *As part of the Department of Justice Canada Economic Action Plan, funding for Youth Justice Services has been reduced by 20% to provinces and territories, resulting in a decrease of $615,000 in revenue to the GNWT*	3,059	2,444
Access to Justice	1,972	1,972
Intensive Rehabilitative Custody and Supervision *The Intensive Rehabilitative Custody and Supervision funding sunsets March 31, 2013. The Department is currently discussing the possibility of futire funding with the federal government.*	200	-
Aboriginal Justice Strategy *- Agreement expired on March 31, 2012. Negotiations are in progress for a new a agreement*	-	
	5,231	4,416
General		
Federal Exchange of Services	755	755
Nunavut Exchange of Services	3,353	3,353
Community Parole	25	25
Young Offenders Special Allowance	25	25
Public Trustee Fees	101	101
Court Fees Additional revenue from Court Reporter Transcript Fees	168	208
Land Title & Legal Registries Fees	4,310	4,316
Access to Information and Protection of Privacy Fees	4	4
Court Fines	372	372
Maintenance Enforcement Program Attachment Costs	24	24
Interest	3	3
	9,140	9,186

Major Revenue Changes: 2012-13 Main Estimates to 2013-14 Business Plan
JUSTICE

Revenue Item	(thousands of dollars) 2012-13 Main Estimates	2013-14 Business Plans
Recoveries		
Amortization of Capital Contribution	10	10
Legal Aid Repayments	60	60
Air Charter Recoveries	92	92
Sale of Publications	17	17
Inmate Recoveries	7	7
Witness Expense Assistance Recovery The Department is currently finalizing a Memorandum of Understanding with Public Prosecutions Canada to recover one half the cost of administering the Witness Espense Assistance Program.	-	182
	186	368
	14,557	13,970

Proposed Adjustments to Grants and Contributions: 2012-13 Main Estimates to 2012-14 Business Plan

Proposed Adjustments to Grants and Contributions: 2012-13 Main Estimates to 2013-14
JUSTICE

(thousands of dollars)

Key Activity	Explanation of Proposed Adjustment	2012-13 Main Estimates	Forced Growth	New Initiatives	Sunsets and Other Approved Adjustments	Internal Re-allocation	2013-14 Business Plan
Services to Government							
National Justice Issues		9					9
Aboriginal Court Challenges		40					40
Total for Services to Government		49	0	0	0	0	49
Community Justice							
Community Justice		1371					1,371
Victims Assistance		525					525
Total for Community Justice		**1,896**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**1,896**
Corrections							
Elder's Program		30					30
Wilderness Camps		149					149
Total for Corrections		**179**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**179**
Services to Public							
YWCA		105					105
Total for Services to Public		105	0	0	0	0	105
TOTAL PROPOSED ADJUSTMENTS		**2,229**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**2,229**

Appendix II – Human Resources Reconciliation

Position Changes: 2012-13 Main Estimates to 2013-14 Business Plan

Position Changes: 2012-13 Main Estimates to 2013-14 Business Plans
JUSTICE

	Number of Positions	Location	Total
2012-2013 Main Estimates	456		456
Sunsets:			
Devolution and Resource Revenue Sharing Legal Counsel Sun	(2)	HQ/YK	(2)
Forced Growth:			-
Justice Informatics Section	2	HQ/YK	2
GNWT Access and Privacy Office Records Assistant	1	HQ/YK	1
Other Adjustments:			-
Establishment of an additional Legal Aid Family Lawyer	1	North Slave	1
Pilot Alcohol and Drug treatment program at SMCC	3	Hay River	3
Devolution Legislative Counsel*	2	HQ/YK	2
Total Proposed Positions 2013-14 Business Plan	463		463
Increase (Decrease)	7		7

* Funding for these positions sits in the Department of Executive budget.

Appendix III – Infrastructure Investments

Planned Activities – 2013/14

North Slave Corrections Centre – Telecommunications

The current telecommunications system at the North Slave Correctional Centre has been identified by the supplier as "end of life" due to hardware age and lack of support. The Department of Justice will acquire and deploy a new electronic telecommunication system that possesses the capability of seamlessly integrating within an existing environment. The proposed system will be complete with hardware and software warranty and the necessary technical support to ensuring optimum availability, and minimal downtime.

Yellowknife Courthouse – Courtroom 4

Courtroom 4 is a resource relied upon closely by the Courts for accessible and timely delivery of justice. It is the regular chambers in which Justice of the Peace Court sits in Yellowknife, and increasingly is the location in which second Territorial Court is held. Its current layout was determined for needs of Justice of the Peace court, and is not functional and fails to respond adequately to the needs of the Territorial Court and participants in the process.

Community Corrections – Security Upgrades/Tenant Improvements

The Department is currently working with the Department of Public Works and Services to develop specifications that address the unique security needs of remote community probation offices. Community probation officers supervise territorial probation clients, but also supervise federal parole clients under a Memorandum of Understanding with the Correctional Service of Canada. There are currently several office leases under renewal, and it is the intention to renovate each area to meet the standards currently being developed.

Sheriff Vehicle – Hay River

Sheriff's officers provide security and civil enforcement services for NWT Courts. The existing 1998Sheriff's vehicle (15 years old at the end of 2012/13 fiscal year)positioned in Hay River is frequently out of service due to unscheduled maintenance requirements. These incidents have a negative impact upon program delivery and increase the cost of operations. Safe conduct of the Sheriff's Service role in NWT Courts requires reliable, secure transportation that is reserved exclusively for the use of the Service.